

Radon, lung cancer information session coming to Orangeville

Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health (WDGPH) is hosting a radon and lung cancer information session tonight (Thursday) at the Alder Street Recreation Centre in Orangeville.

The public health unit and Health Canada will be available to answer questions at this free, drop-in event from 5 to 7:30 p.m. Kits to test the home for radon will be available to purchase at the session for the discounted price of \$35.

During November, discounted test kits can also be purchased online at wdgpublichealth.ca/radon

Radon is the second-leading cause of lung cancer after smoking and is linked to 16 per cent of lung cancer deaths in Canada. A naturally occurring gas, radon seeps into buildings from the soil and builds up to dangerous levels in many homes in Canada. It is colourless, odourless and tasteless, so unless you test for it, you won't know if your home has a high level of radon that is putting you at risk of lung cancer.

Testing for radon is easy and inexpensive. You can buy an approved do-it-yourself radon test kit or hire a certified radon professional. Radon testing should occur in the winter, over a minimum of three months. If the test indicates your home has a high level of radon, it is important to take steps to lower it to reduce your family's risk of lung cancer.